

# Williams Settlement Legislation Site Review Training

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# Lawsuit Background

- May 2000, ACLU and other public interest advocates filed lawsuit against State of California
- Suit claimed that the state failed to provide public school students with equal access to sufficient textbooks, decent school facilities, and qualified teachers

# Intent of Legislation

- **To ensure all students have equal access to:**
  - Instructional materials in core subject areas
  - Qualified teachers/credentialed teachers
  - Safe, clean, adequate facilities

# Facilities



# Good Repair

- As defined in Education Code:
  - *The facility is maintained in a manner that assures that it is **clean, safe, and functional.***



# Considerations

- • Is it dangerous?
- • Will it injure a student or staff member?
- • Is this condition pervasive enough to be considered a health hazard?



# FIT - 15 Categories

1. GAS LEAKS - Stop Inspection & notify school staff
  - Natural gas odor
  - Visible broken gas pipes
2. HVAC (Heating, Ventilation & Air Conditioning)
  - HVAC system is inoperable
  - Adequate ventilation
  - Unobstructed vents and grills
  - Temperature within normal accepted ranges
  - Units generating excessive noise or vibrations

# FIT - 15 Categories – cont.

## 3. WINDOWS/DOORS/GATES/FENCES

- Broken glass accessible to pupils and staff
- Missing or non functioning doors, windows, gates
- Holes in fencing or gates

## 4. INTERIOR SURFACES

- Ceiling tiles falling down
- Mildew or visible mold
- Carpet with excessive rippling or large tears
- Floor tiles broken, missing, damaged that pose hazard

# FIT - 15 Categories – cont.

## 5. HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

- Hazardous chemicals, chemical waste, and flammable materials not stored properly (locked & labeled)
- Excessive peeling paint
- Surfaces have mildew, mold odor or visible

## 6. STRUCTURAL DAMAGE - **Stop Inspection & notify school staff**

- Severe cracks, dry rot, mold or damage that undermines the structural components
- Sloping or sagging ceilings or floors
- Walls leaning or bulging
- Posts, beams, or supports leaning, missing, or not functional as designed

# FIT - 15 Categories – cont.

## 7. FIRE SAFETY

- Emergency exits unobstructed
- Fire sprinklers inoperable
- Fire extinguishers have current tags
- Emergency alarms appear functional

## 8. ELECTRICAL

- Exposed electrical wires
- Any portion of the school has a power failure
- Outlets, access panels, switch plates, junction boxes and fixtures covered and secured
- Adequate lighting
- Lights flickering indicating electrical power failure

# FIT - 15 Categories – cont.

## 9. PEST/VERMIN INFESTATION

- Major pest or vermin infestation
- Rodent droppings or live rodents
- Odor caused by pest/vermin infestation
- Holes in walls, ceiling, floors from rodents

## 10. DRINKING FOUNTAINS

- Evident leaking
- Not functioning or accessible
- Water not clear or unusual odor or taste
- Water pressure is adequate
- Moss or mold visible

# FIT - 15 Categories – cont.

## 11. RESTROOMS

- Restrooms open and operational
- Restrooms excessively dirty
- Stocked with toilet paper, soap, paper towels, or functional hand dryers

## 12. SEWER SYSTEM

- Flooding caused by sewer line back-up
- Sewer odor

## 13. ROOFS

- Roof and roofing materials missing
- Gutters, roof drains, downspouts are damaged

# FIT - 15 Categories – cont.

## 14. PLAYGROUND/SCHOOL GROUNDS

- Significant cracks, trip hazards, holes, and deterioration
- Seating, tables, and equipment functional; no significant cracks
- Drainage problems causing damage to soil, asphalt, or clogged storm drains
- Protruding bolts or sharp points/edges on playground equipment

## 15. OVERALL CLEANLINESS

- Accumulated refuse, trash, or grime
- Unabated graffiti
- Restrooms, drinking fountains, and food serving areas appear to be cleaned each day school in session

# Extreme Deficiencies

“Conditions cited in the Good Repair Standard that are critical to the health and safety of pupils and staff.”

*and*

“If left unmitigated, could cause severe and immediate injury, illness, or death.”

# Samples of Extreme Deficiencies

- Gas leaks or broken gas pipes
- Nonfunctioning HVAC systems
- Accessible broken glass
- Exterior doors and gates that are nonfunctioning and pose a security risk
- Fire alarms or sprinklers not functioning or emergency exits obstructed
- Any portion of school has power failure
- Major pest or vermin infestation
- Hazardous materials not stored and labeled properly and pose an immediate threat to pupils or staff
- Structural damage creating a hazardous or uninhabitable condition
- Flooding caused by sewer line back-up

# Questions

